

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Kenneth P. Hinckley, et al.

Application No. 09/940,900

Filed: August 29, 2001

For: TOUCH-SENSITIVE DEVICE

FOR SCROLLING A

DOCUMENT ON A DISPLAY

Group Art Unit: 2674

Examiner: D. Dinh

Atty Docket: 03797.00124

<u>RESPONSE</u>

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated January 26, 2005, Applicants hereby corrects the Amendment as previously submitted in the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office on December 22, 2004 as follows (starting on page 2).

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Group Art Unit: 2674 Application No. 09/940,900

Examiner: D. Dinh Filed: August 29, 2001

Atty Docket: 03797.00124 For:

TOUCH-SENSITIVE DEVICE FOR SCROLLING A

REQUEST FOR REFUND

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Mail Stop Document Services Division P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313

DOCUMENT ON A DISPLAY

Sir:

Attorney for Applicants has reviewed the Deposit Account Statement invoice concerning the costs charged by the United States Patent and Trademark Office for Extension of Time fee for this application.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Response to Non-Compliant Amendment mailed January 26, 2005 was filed in the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 24, 2005, which constitutes a One-Month Petition Fee of \$120. The Petition fee was erroneously processed and charged to our deposit account number 19-0733 in the amount of \$450. A copy of the USPTO Deposit Account Statement is enclosed herewith, as well as a copy of the Response as filed and a copy of stamped post card. Therefore, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.26(b), Attorney for Applicants respectfully request refund in the amount of \$330.00 for the erroneously charged Petition for Extension of Time fee.

As this Request for Refund is timely filed within two years of the fees it is respectfully requested that the Commissioner refund the excess by crediting the overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

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Date: 7/24/05

1001 G Street N.W., 11th Floor Washington, D.C. 20001 (202) 824-3000 Robert S. Katz

Registration No. 36,402



United States Patent and Trademark Office

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Inventor Kenneth P. HINCKIEV E Title TOUCH-SENSITVIE DEVICE	FOR SCROLLING A DOCUME	NT ON A DISPLAY-
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DOCUMENT ON A DISPLAY

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated January 26, 2005, Applicants hereby corrects the Amendment as previously submitted in the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office on December 22, 2004 as follows (starting on page 2).

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

- 1. (Canceled)
- 2. (Currently amended) The <u>touch-sensitive</u> device of claim 5, wherein said device is part of a keyboard including an alphanumeric section, said scrolling area being disposed within said alphanumeric section.
- 3. (Previously presented) The touch-sensitive device of claim 5, further comprising a housing with first, second and third opening that frames the central, first end, and second end scrolling areas.
- 4. (Original) The touch-sensitive device of claim 3, said housing further having members extending across scrolling regions to physically divide said central and first end scrolling areas, and said central and second end scrolling areas.
- 5. (Previously presented) A touch-sensitive device for scrolling a document on a display screen, said device comprising:

a central scrolling area extending along a longitudinal axis; and

first and second end scrolling areas positioned along the longitudinal axis on opposed sides of the central scrolling area, said first and second end scrolling areas being physically separate and spaced from the central scrolling area; and

first and second scroll input surfaces positioned immediately adjacent to said central scrolling area, and on opposing sides of and spaced from said central scrolling area in a direction

perpendicular from said longitudinal axis, said first and second input surfaces enabling the scrolling of a document in opposite directions along a first axis.

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- 6. (Original) The device of claim 5, further comprising a housing with firstly second, third, fourth, and fifth openings that frames said central scrolling area, said first and second input surfaces, and said first end and second end scrolling areas, respectively.
- 7. (Original) The device of claim 6, wherein said central scrolling area has a length measured along the longitudinal axis and an average width perpendicular from the longitudinal axis, wherein said length is greater than two times the width.
- 8. (Original) The device of claim 6, wherein said central scrolling area has a length measured along the longitudinal axis and an average width perpendicular from the longitudinal axis, wherein said length is greater than three times the width.
- 9. (Original) The device of claim 6, wherein said first and second end scrolling areas enable the scrolling of a document in opposite directions along a second axis perpendicular to the first axis.
- 10. (Previously presented) The touch-sensitive device of claim 5, wherein said first end and second end scrolling areas are generally circular in shape.
- 11. (Previously presented) The touch-sensitive device of claim 5, wherein said first end and second end scrolling areas are generally hemispherical in shape.
- 12. (Previously presented) The touch-sensitive device of claim 5, wherein said first end and second end scrolling areas are generally triangular in shape.
- 13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) The touch-sensitive device of claim 20, said first and second end scrolling areas having a width that is greater than the width of the central scrolling area.

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- 16. (Currently amended) The touch-sensitive device of claim_20, said first and second end scrolling areas have a width that is narrower than the width of the central scrolling area.
- 17. (Original) The touch-sensitive device of claim 16, wherein the first and second ends each have distal ends, said first and second end tapering in width as they approach their distal ends.
- 18. (Original) The touch-sensitive device of claim 17, further comprising a housing with an opening that frames the scrolling area.
- 19. (Canceled)
- 20. (Currently amended) A touch-sensitive device for scrolling a document on a display screen, said device comprising: a central scrolling area extending along a longitudinal axis and having a width in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis, first and second end scrolling areas positioned along the longitudinal axis on opposed sides of the central scrolling area, said first and second end scrolling areas having a width that differs from the width of the central scrolling area, and The touch sensitive device of claim 19, further comprising first and second scroll input surfaces positioned adjacent to said central scrolling area, and on opposing sides of and spaced from said central scrolling area in a direction perpendicular from said longitudinal axis, said first and second input surfaces enabling the scrolling of the image in opposite directions along a first axis, and wherein said device is part of a keyboard including an alphanumeric section.

21-41. (Canceled)

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space-bar, said elongated-first touch-sensitive device strip-being (a) disposed between said G key

wherein the alphanumeric section-includes a G key, a B key, a T key, a Y key, and a

and said <u>BH</u> key, (b) disposed between said T key and said Y key, and (c) disposed immediately behind said space bar.

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- 46. (Previously presented) The keyboard of claim 42, further comprising an editing section and a numeric section, said editing section and said numeric section being laterally disposed from said alphanumeric section.
- 47. (Currently amended) A keyboard having the system of claim 50, said keyboard having comprising:

an alphanumeric section; and

an elongated touch-sensitive strip disposed within said alphanumeric section;

wherein the keyboard has a front-to-back direction extending from a front of the keyboard to a back of the keyboard, and a side-to-side direction extending from a left side of the keyboard to a right side of the keyboard, the front-to-back direction being perpendicular to the side-to-side direction, wherein said <u>first elongated</u>-touch—sensitive <u>device strip</u>-extends along a longitudinal axis that is angularly displaced from the front-to-back direction.

- 48. (Original) The keyboard of claim 47, wherein said longitudinal axis of said elongated touch sensitive strip is angularly displaced from the front-to-back direction by an angle in the range between 5 and 20 degrees.
- 49. (Currently amended) A keyboard having the system of claim 50, said keyboard having comprising:

an alphanumeric section; and

an elongated touch sensitive strip disposed within said alphanumeric section; wherein the alphanumeric section is divided into first and second portions, said first and second portions each being generally angularly disposed relative the keyboard, said first elongated touch—sensitive device strip-extends along a longitudinal axis that is angularly disposed relative

to the keyboard by an amount that is approximately the same and the angular disposition of the first portion.

50. (Currently amended) A system for scrolling a document on a display screen, said system comprising:

a first touch-sensitive device having an elongated touch sensitive input surface;

a second touch-sensitive device having an elongated touch sensitive input surface, said second-touch sensitive device being spaced from and adjacent to said first touch-sensitive device; and

a physical divider disposed between first and second touch-sensitive devices, said divider having a contoured edge immediately adjacent the elongated touch sensitive input surface of at least one of said first and second touch-sensitive devices;

wherein said contoured edge is sawtoothed shaped assisting the user in locating a position between a top and a bottom of at least one of the first and second touch-sensitive devices.

51. (Canceled)

- 52. (Currently amended) The system of claim 50, wherein said divider has a second edge opposite from said contoured edge, said second edge having a contour that differs from said sawtoothed shape.
- 53. (Currently amended) The device of claim 20, further comprising tactile feedback means located between the first and second scrolling areas for providing tactile feedback for assisting in the location of the first and second scrolling areas ends.
- 54. (Previously presented) The device of claim 53, wherein the tactile feedback means is located on an outer surface on the central scrolling area.

- 55. (Previously presented) The device of claim 54, wherein the tactile feedback means includes surface texture on the outer surface of the central scrolling area.
- 56. (Previously presented) The device of claim 53, further comprising a housing with an opening that frames at least the central scrolling area, and wherein the tactile feedback means includes changes in the surface of the frame in the region immediately adjacent the opening.
- 57. (Previously presented) The device of claim 53, wherein the tactile feedback means includes at least one member coupled to the housing and extending into a boundary of the central scrolling area.

REMARKS

This Amendment is intended to replace the Amendment filed December 23, 2004 as a few of the claims had an identified of "Amended" that has herein been substituted by "Currently Amended". This Amendment should be used in lieu of the December 23, 2004 Amendment.

Claims 2-12, 14-18, 20, 42-50 and 52-57 are currently pending. Claims 12, 14-16, 20, 42-45, 47, 49-50, and 52-53 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Applicants assert that the application is in condition for allowance.

Applicants thank Examiner Duc Q. Dinh for courtesies extended for the telephonic interview of November 22, 2004. During the Examiner's Interview, it was agreed that (a) claim 5 is allowable, (b) claim 20 contained allowable subject matter if placed in independent form, and (c) claim 51 would be allowable if placed in independent form and amended to clarify a purpose for the saw-tooth contour. Further, the Examiner indicated that he found U. S. Patent No. 6,081,207 in his search, that he has fully considered this reference, and that he will endeavor to formally list it on Form PTO-892 with a Notice of Allowance.

In this amendment, independent claim 5 has been left unchanged as such was indicated as being allowable by the Examiner in the Examiner's Interview. Dependent claim 20 has been rewritten in independent form including the features of previously pending independent claim 13 and the features from claim 19 but for "the scrolling area being disposed within the alphanumeric section" which was discussed as being not needed for the patentability of that claim. The

features of dependent claim 51 and the requested functional recitation have been added into independent claim 50. Selected dependent claims have been amended to change their dependency to maintain consistency with claims from which they depend and/or to make the claims more clear. Further, other pending independent claims have been amended to be placed in dependent form. Accordingly, all independent claims are allowable, and all other claims dependent from those claims are therefore allowable for at least those reasons.

Thus, by this amendment, applicants respectfully assert that the case in condition for allowance. Applicants reserve all rights to pursue the canceled claims in a continuing application.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Any fees required for this Amendment are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Date: 3/24/65

1001 G Street N.W., 11th Floor Washington, D.C. 20001 (202) 824-3000 ____

Robert S. Katz Registration No. 36,402

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